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PETITION

OF

PROFESSOR TOWNEND GLOVER,

PROPOSING

To transfer to the government certain entomological works, with the engraved plates prepared to illustrate the various species of insects of the North American continent.

JANUARY 21, 1879.—Referred to the Committee on Agriculture and ordered to be printed.

To the Senate and House of Representatives :

Your memorialist respectfully represents that during the past fifteen years he has been the entomologist of the Agricultural Department of the government; that prior to his connection with the said department he had commenced a work on entomology; that during his professional connection with said department he has employed his time, exclusive of that exacted by official duties, in the prosecution of this work; that he has completed said work, which consists of a number of manuscript volumes, and two hundred and seventy-nine engraved copper plates, illustrating the work, which engraved plates represent the figures of over ten thousand insects.

Your memorialist further represents that the preparation of the manuscript volumes and the engraving of the copper plates are the result of his individual labor, done at his own residence out of office hours; that the work so accomplished has caused him intense study and investigation; that during all the years of his connection with the Agricultural Department and the progress of the work, he has prepared and produced for the benefit of said department books of reference and colored illustrative plates, exclusive of and in addition to his professional duties; that he possesses the evidence, in the shape of a vast amount of correspondence, of the advantages accruing to the agricultural districts of the country from the possession and use by the government of such information in practical form.

Your memorialist further represents that his object in commencing and prosecuting so extensive and comprehensive a work was to furnish a series of volumes for reference, with full and accurate illustrations, which, when published in proper form, will serve as a text-book for scientists, for the Agricultural Department of the government, for local organizations, and for individual convenience.

Your memorialist further represents that the preparation of the manuscript volumes, the procuring, figuring, and engraving of so large a variety of insects, have imposed unremitting study and labor, and the expenditure of a large amount of his own money; that at a time of life

when rest and comfort are desirable, he finds himself broken in health and a constant sufferer. Of this he makes no complaint. It is the inevitable consequence of overtaxed powers in the persistent pursuit of a profession which has been the absorbing object of his life.

Your memorialist further represents that he greatly desires that the government should become the possessor of this work, not only on account of its practical utility, but because during all the years of its preparation it has been progressively identified with the government in the protection it has extended to the agricultural interests of the country, and is, to a very large extent, familiar to the agricultural people; but, in his pecuniary circumstances, it would be unjust to himself, nay, impossible, to donate in full what has been produced at so great a sacrifice of time, labor, money, and health. He therefore respectfully proposes a compromise that will doubtless be recognized as liberal on his part and satisfactory to all concerned.

The intrinsic value of the copper plates, including their purchase, preparation, and the work of engraving them, is, at the lowest estimate, \$100 each, and this would be the charge of an engraver for the plates and mechanical labor, after having the insects figured for his use. Your memorialist asks no compensation for the manuscript volumes; these he proposes to donate entire; but he respectfully suggests that it would be just to give him an equivalent to what would be exacted by any skilled engraver at the rates which govern for such work, and which the government would have to pay for the illustrations requisite for a work of this kind: Therefore,

Your memorialist prays that your honorable bodies appropriate the sum of \$27,900 to be paid to him on his delivery to the Commissioner of Agriculture all his manuscript volumes on entomology, and two hundred and seventy-nine engraved copper plates illustrating the same.

And he will ever pray.

TOWNEND GLOVER.

ACCOMPANYING LETTER.

To the Senate and House of Representatives :

The undersigned begs leave to accompany his memorial to your honorable bodies with some explanations and suggestions that may more properly and explicitly be presented in a communication of this kind than in a memorial.

A protracted experience in his profession has demonstrated that his work has been greatly appreciated by students in agricultural colleges, by the farming people of all sections of the country, and by all who are interested in this branch of natural science, as its accurate and correctly colored figures, drawn from the insects themselves, enable any person of ordinary education and capacity to identify the principal injurious species known to affect our agriculture, as well as the beneficial species which prey upon them.

In many cases the species are so marked that persons having little or no knowledge of entomology as a science are enabled to recognize the name of a given insect, and, by referring to the text of the work, to trace its larval or other stages, the food plants upon which it thrives, the time the eggs are deposited, the length of time consumed by the insect in going through its changes, and lastly, the means by which they may be destroyed. As the habits of insects do not change with their nomencla-

ture, and as their forms remain the same, the work must always be found invaluable for reference and identification. In the few instances in which names have been changed during the past two years, the new names can be substituted with slight trouble when the work is finally revised for publication.

The proposition contained in my memorial I cannot believe will be regarded in the light of one of the many applications to Congress for personal relief by appropriation. Even a superficial examination of what I have the honor to submit must convince any member of your honorable bodies that I am not asking for relief; that I only ask to be reimbursed for the cost of over two hundred and seventy plates illustrating my work; that I should give to the government double the value I should receive provided you should favorably consider my proposition. I offer to transfer for a nominal sum property that \$50,000 would be no compensation for; property that the government has had the use and benefit of during a protracted period of time; property that comprises the most extensive work on entomology, with the most numerous illustrations, that has ever been produced in this or any country.

As precedents for appropriations of this kind, I need only refer to the liberality of Congress in providing for Arctic explorations and the purchase and publication of valuable reports, to the annual appropriations for geological surveys and specific investigations, and to its favor and encouragement of a great number of meritorious objects. In view of these facts I have no hesitation in resorting to this alternative for the permanent and practical benefit of the agricultural interests, for the reason that, if my proposition is accepted by your honorable bodies, it will enable me to become a more liberal contributor than the government to an object which, more than any other, has consumed my time, strength, and substance.

I respectfully ask attention to the accompanying original letters, bearing testimony to the character and value of my work, from the late Professor Agassiz, Dr. Hagen, of the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Cambridge, and others.

Very respectfully,

TOWNEND GLOVER.

CAMBRIDGE, *February 17, 1871.*

MY DEAR DOCTOR: I have duly received your letter concerning Mr. Glover's museum and collections of drawings in the Patent Office at Washington. I have seen them myself and agree with every word you say about their excellence and great importance, both in a scientific and economical point of view, and would consider the publication of his observations and of the delineations of insects injurious to vegetation, as most desirable, and likely to be in the highest degree creditable to the United States Government. Were I a special student of insects I would urge this publication upon the proper authorities; but it would be ill fitting for me to allow my opinion to go before yours, whom all the world recognizes as a master in entomology. I would, therefore, recommend to you to send a copy of your letter to me to Mr. Glover, with full authority to make any use he pleases of the same, adding, perhaps, these lines, which may secure a reading of your letter among those who know me already and may not yet know that you are among us.

Ever truly, your friend,

L. AGASSIZ.

Dr. H. HAGEN,
Museum of Comparative Zoology, Cambridge.

CAMBRIDGE, MASS., *February 9, 1871.*

MY DEAR MR. GLOVER: I was very happy to hear from Mr. Sanborn that you have the intention to publish, by aid of the Congress, your excellent work. Next day I

told Professor Agassiz the happy news, and he asked instantly from me a very circumstantial report on your work, because he has the intention to do all in his power to help you and your publication.

I tell you I am somewhat ashamed to hear that an aid by the Congress is not without any doubt.

After I had the pleasure to see your museum and your work, I have seen a great part of Europe, and I am happy to say that your museum, your work, and even the whole plan after which all is arranged, is rarely unsurpassed at this time by any one in the world.

The plan adopted by you to publish your beautiful drawings and to put them near the shelves as explications is analogous to the excellent manner adopted in the Hunterian Museum in London.

You can be sure at this time there exists no similar museum to yours in England, France, Germany, or Belgium. I believe America could be proud to have such a treasure, and I believe the money necessary for your publication must be given very happily, or, if not, it would be a peculiar standard for the education of the Congress.

Yours, very truly,

Prof. H. A. HAGEN.

834 THIRTEENTH STREET, FRANKLIN-SQUARE,
Washington, D. C., January 26, 1878.

MY DEAR SIR: Seeing complimentary mention of your scientific labors, past and present, I am reminded of an unfulfilled resolution, long in mind, to communicate to you a remark by the lamented Agassiz, on the occasion of his last visit to this city.

The professor had called at my hotel to talk of the proposed National University, and mentioned having just come from an interesting visit to you at the Agricultural Department, whereupon I inquired his opinion, saying, "Well, professor, no man in the world is better qualified to pronounce judgment than yourself; tell me, what sort of work is Professor Glover doing?" His quick response, accompanied by that illumination of countenance which no one can forget who ever heard him speak upon a pleasant theme, was in these exact words: "*Magnificent! His services are extremely valuable, and should he ever have occasion to leave the department he can have a place in the Museum of Comparative Zoology ON HIS OWN TERMS.*"

This is testimony of which any scientist in the world might be proud, and I doubt not that even one more indifferent than most men to the commendation of his fellows will have pleasure in receiving it.

Immediately after the interview referred to, I was absent in Europe for a year, and since my return, the pressure of duties has been such as to have delayed the execution of my friendly purpose until this moment.

With assurances of sincere regard, I remain, my dear professor, very truly yours,
JOHN W. HOYT.

Prof. TOWNEND GLOVER,
Agricultural Department.

CAMBRIDGE, MASS., February 12, 1871.

DEAR SIR: In the May of 1870, I had the opportunity of visiting the Agricultural Museum in Washington, and to admire the plan upon which it is founded and the unsurpassed manner in which the plan is carried out, solely by the power and work of one man, Mr. Townend Glover.

As I have ascertained by my late trip through a considerable part of Europe, the Museum in Washington seems to be the only one in the world following a plan so important for science and agriculture. The idea to represent in the same room all the products of the individual States of the Union, the minerals and different kinds of earths, the animals and plants growing spontaneously or by culture in each, and the products useful for men and animals, for trade and manufactures, is in itself a great one, and of special interest for science and its applications.

The manner in which Mr. T. Glover is carrying out his plan is in every way satisfactory and deserves the highest commendation. By way of a certain combination of labels or marks, the useful and noxious are easily distinguished. The fruits represented by casts made by Mr. Glover himself, in an unsurpassed manner the different kinds of seeds, their products, &c., give to everybody clear indications of which kind of culture is best adapted for any State, or even for a part of earth.

The insects, noxious and useful, with their products, are largely exhibited, and form in this manner an unrivaled museum. Mr. Glover has adopted for them a plan, so far as I know, only comparable in a certain sense to the excellent catalogues in the

Hunterian Museum in the College of Surgeons in London. Mr. Glover has figured all the insects, as most of them are too small otherwise to be recognized by the naked eye, or to be understood by visitors not initiated in the technicalities of the science.

If necessary, figures of the transformation or product are added.

These figures, mostly very superior to any thus far published, are engraved by himself, and as the catalogues of the Hunterian Museum form for the visitors and students a sure and excellent guide to the drawers in which the specimens are exhibited.

I confess I have no idea how one man had the power alone to accomplish so much work in such a superior manner. I have seen in the papers it would perhaps be possible to have the extensive entomological works of Mr. Glover published. Without any doubt such a publication would not only be of the greatest use for American students, but even accepted by the whole scientific world with the greatest satisfaction.

Respectfully yours,

Professor H. A. HAGEN, M. D., PH. D.

Professor AGASSIZ.

COALBURGH, W. VA., *December 28, 1878.*

DEAR SIR: I am very glad to hear that an effort is making to secure for the country Professor Glover's copper plates of the insects of the United States, and his manuscript relating thereto. These materials are invaluable to us, and should Professor Glover dispose of them in England or elsewhere the loss could never be made good. Being an enthusiastic entomologist, as well as artist, these plates have been to him a labor of love, and he has given to them the better part of a lifetime, and executes them with the greatest fidelity. His work on the cotton-insects is beyond all praise. I know of nothing comparable to it on the range of entomological illustrated literature, and the plates of this work and notes belonging to them are worth, in my opinion, to the country, the full sum that Professor Glover requires for the entire lot of plates and manuscript. This work ought to be circulated broadcast over the cotton States, for the instruction of the planters and growers. So the insects that infest the sugar-cane, the orange-trees, the grains, roots, &c., and the several forest-trees, are nearly all, so far as they are known, figured on these plates. It is of very little use attempting to convey knowledge of the insects injurious to agriculture to the people at large unless colored figures of the insects accompany the text. Such figures appeal to the understanding and memory, and for instruction are absolutely necessary. The loss to the nation by the ravages of insects is annually hundreds of millions of dollars, and the agriculturists everywhere need to be instructed as to the appearance of their enemies before they can intelligently comprehend advice as to overcoming or counteracting them. By all means let us have those plates of Professor Glover as the first step in proper education on this subject.

Yours, truly,

W. H. EDWARDS.

CHARLES R. DODGE, Esq.,
Washington, D. C.

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MEMORIAL

OF

DR. H. A. HAGEN, PROFESSOR OF HARVARD UNIVERSITY; PROFESSOR SMITH, OF YALE COLLEGE; P. R. UHLER, PRESIDENT MARYLAND ACADEMY OF SCIENCES; J. L. LE CONTE, CHARLES A. BLAKE, AND OTHER ENTOMOLOGISTS IN THE UNITED STATES,

IN FAVOR OF

The purchase by the government of the engraved plates prepared by Professor Townend Glover, illustrating the insects of the North American continent.

JANUARY 21, 1879.—Referred to the Committee on Agriculture and ordered to be printed.

To the honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the United States :

Learning that the life-long work on North American insects of Professor Townend Glover, late Entomologist of the Department of Agriculture, is offered to the government at the mere cost of engraving the plates, we take pleasure in recommending its purchase, knowing that such a publication would prove a valuable acquisition to the literature of science, and that the work will be found most useful in the libraries of colleges and other institutions of learning, agricultural societies, and of scientific men.

We, the working entomologists of the United States, therefore urge its speedy possession by the government, that the value of the work may be recognized during the life of the author, and that the cause of American entomology may be advanced.

SAM. H. SCUDDER.

DR. H. A. HAGEN,

Professor at Harvard University.

B. PICKMAN MANN.

GEO. DIMMOCK.

E. P. AUSTIN.

S. I. SMITH,

Prof. Comp. Anatomy, Yale College.

A. E. VERRILL,

Prof. of Zoology, Yale College.

J. L. LE CONTE.

E. T. CRESSON.

GEORGE H. HOWE, M. D.

CHAS. A. BLAKE.

P. R. UHLER,

President of the Maryland Academy of Sciences.

JNO. G. MORRIS.

C. V. RILEY,

*Chief U. S. Entomological Comm.,
Entomologist Dept. of Agriculture*

CHAS. R. DODGE,

Editor Field and Forest.

